

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردن نيوز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ((الراي))

AMMAN, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1977 — SAFAR 14, 1397

Price: 50 fils

envoy begins Africa tour

ES SALAAM, Feb. 3 (AFP). — U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young said today that he would make new approaches to South Africa Rhodesia on the need for majority rule in the rebel territory. Mr. Young, who arrived here from London, said the U.S. would not support Rhodesian Premier Smith's plans for an "internal" solution to the territorial independence dispute, through reaching an agreement with "moderate" African leaders. The U.S. was tilted to majority rule in Rhodesia and the Carter administration would send additional signals to Mr. Young and South Africa about this commitment, Mr. Young said. He later left for the Indian Ocean island of Zanzibar where he will meet Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere and leaders of the other "front line" states.

PLO, Israeli dissidents meet

PARIS, Feb. 3 (R). — Representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Israel Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace (ICIPP) have begun a new series of contacts for a seventh round of talks here soon, Arab and Israeli sources said today. The last gathering was attended by Dr. Issam Sartawi, a member of the PLO Central Committee and Mr. Arieh Eliav, a member of the Israeli Knesset and former Secretary General of the Mapai Labour Party, a noted dissident. They were assisted by two other people, the sources said. President Leopold Sedar Senghor of Senegal, who was in Paris, met Dr. Sartawi and Mr. Eliav last Saturday shortly after they had held the sixth round of talks. Senegalese officials said the meeting took place at the Senegalese embassy here.

King Hussein says in interview

Indue optimism over peace can backfire

Feb. 3 (R). — His Majesty King Hussein said in an interview published today that present optimism about developments in the East risked bringing return of extremism. Interview in Amman correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, King Hussein said he was alarmed that 1977 was being treated as a Middle East peace year. "It is unrealistic optimism that can lead to a confrontation with the fact that peace will not be the result of work and not mirages," he said, adding that realization will cause frustration and impatience and the extremists from all sides will make use of that," he said. The conservative newspaper quoted King Hussein as disclosing that talks were to begin later this month between Jordan and leaders of the Palestine National Council in Amman. The talks, aimed at working out attitudes to the forthcoming Geneva conference on the Middle East, would have "certain defined limitations," the King said. "No one in Jordan can countenance any reassembling of the conditions that led to the disaster here of 1970," the King added, referring to the fighting between the Palestinian commandos and the Jordanian army in September, 1970.



FIRST LEG OF MISSION -- Dr. Kurt Waldheim and Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy converse at Cairo airport on the U.N. Secretary General's arrival Wednesday. (AP wirephoto).

King Hussein criticized Israel for not undertaking any new initiatives towards a Middle East settlement, the Telegraph said. The King stressed that he stood by Jordan's known position calling for a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. In another interview published on the same day in Paris, the King warned that Israel's military strength was increasing while that of the Arabs was declining. Interviewed by the mass circulation daily France-Soir, the King reiterated his insistence on Palestinian participation at any possible renewal of the Geneva Middle East peace conference. He said: "In the military field Israel is much stronger than it has ever been compared to the directly concerned Arab states whose level of readiness has remained identical since 1973 and is even a little inferior for obvious reasons." He did not elaborate. On the Geneva conference, he commented: "It is very important that there is Palestinian participation in the discussions if we want to reach a solution."

Sadat announces tough law-and-order moves; blasts Nasserites

CAIRO, Feb. 3 (R). — President Anwar Sadat of Egypt tonight announced sweeping law-and-order measures following last month's bloody food riots, which he implicitly blamed on the Soviet Union. In a bitter two-hour speech, the Egyptian leader blamed "Communists" for the riots and said the Soviet Union was opposed to his liberalisation policy, which is aimed among other things at encouraging Western investment in Egypt. President Sadat said the new measures would be the subject of a nation-wide plebiscite, the first of its kind, next Thursday. Banned under the package are the formation of secret or armed groups; sabotage of property; demonstrating or encouraging demonstrations; and strikes aimed at disrupting the economy. All offences will be punishable by hard labour. The law decrees that every Egyptian must produce a statement of wealth and that of his dependents within three months. Taxes will be cut for low-income groups and tax evasion will be punishable by hard labour. The law will be enforced immediately after its publication in the Official Gazette following the plebiscite. President Sadat, speaking on radio and television, said the riots, in which about 80 people were killed and 800 injured, were a "horrible criminal plot." He described the events as "dangerous, very dangerous" but said he would not be intimidated. Banging the table and mopping the sweat off his forehead with his hand in a rare show of anger, the Egyptian leader exploded: "What is this outburst of thefts, of burning private cars? Why? Are there not private cars in Moscow? They have Zims, Mockvichs and others."

Waldheim: Procedure, not timing, a hurdle to Geneva meeting

CAIRO, Feb. 3 (R). — A vital United Nations mission seeking peace in the Middle East appeared in difficulties today over when to reconvene the Geneva conference aimed at settling the Arab-Israeli conflict. U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim told reporters on the second day of a peace-seeking tour through Middle East countries, that the timing of the conference was "not the crucial problem." He spoke after a second round of talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy, who had served notice last night that his country would ask the U.N. Security Council to debate the Middle East if efforts failed to have the Geneva talks resumed by the end of next month. Dr. Waldheim said he believed that agreement on procedural matters was the crucial aspect -- not the timing of the conference itself. "There is, of course, great interest in resuming the conference as soon as possible," he told reporters. "But, in my opinion, this is not the real problem -- if we start a few days earlier or later or even a few weeks earlier or later. The important thing is we agreed on procedures, on the terms of reference, on the agenda and on the participation, which is one of the serious problems we are faced with."

only to report to the Security Council no later than March 1. He said that one of the difficulties facing his peace mission involved the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). "On one side," he told reporters, "the Arabs want the PLO to take part right from the beginning. On the other side, the Israelis and the United States have not accepted this point of view..." "We are trying now to find a way out of this dilemma and find a formula which would make it possible to convene the conference." Dr. Waldheim said the formation of a single Arab delegation, including the Palestinians, was one of the ideas discussed. He is scheduled to have talks during his tour with PLO leader Yasser Arafat. As for the Egyptian position, Dr. Waldheim said: "It is firm as far as the substance is concerned and as far as principles are concerned. It is flexible as regard the methods which we should adopt" for reconvening the conference. He said a number of procedures had to be clarified "before we know whether and when we can resume." Dr. Waldheim stressed that the conference had to be well prepared. "It would not make sense to convene a conference which breaks down from the beginning," he said. Asked if the United States was anxious for the speedy resumption of the conference, Dr. Waldheim replied: "This is my impression." He added: "The United States is very interested in an early resumption of the negotiating process. The question is rather how to resume (it) and how to agree on the procedures. I think this is the crucial question." Dr. Waldheim is due to confer with President Anwar Sadat tomorrow at the end of his visit to Cairo. He goes on to Damascus tomorrow on the second leg of his mission.

Jordan, PLO dialogue next week seems certain

Feb. 3 (R). — His Majesty King Hussein will be in dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation next week aimed at ending a six-year-old rift between the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships, both confirmed today. The meeting would take place in the Jordanian capital, Amman. Mr. Khaled Al Fahoum, head of the PLO delegation in Amman, said the dialogue would be held in Amman. Mr. Fahoum became the PLO official to be received by the King since 1970. The dialogue is a key element towards efforts to make peace in the East and will pave the way towards a Geneva conference. The meeting would allow Jordan and the PLO to go together to Geneva as part of a single delegation or as separate delegations. The PLO set the stage last week for the dialogue.

Nablus students again clash with Israeli troops

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (R). — High school students in this occupied West Bank town today again stoned Israeli military vehicles and soldiers dispersed groups of demonstrators, according to eyewitnesses, but no further arrests were reported. The mayor of Nablus said he was protesting to Israeli Defence Minister Shimon Peres about military action taken to deal with student demonstrations which today continued for the third day. Mayor Bassam Al Shak'ah submitted the protest in a letter signed by representatives of Arab organisations. The letter said several students had been taken to hospital after gas canisters had burst near them, and it asked Mr. Peres to release scores of local people arrested this week. Thirty eight inhabitants of this town were arrested last night. Among them were five merchants accused of "closing their shops ostentatiously to provoke a chain reaction," the daily newspaper Maariv reported. Army sources said 16 of those detained, mainly students, would be charged in court shortly. The students said they were protesting about the treatment of Arab prisoners in Ashkelon jail.

During the two days of riots -- the worst since King Farouk was overthrown 25 years ago -- anger was directed at symbols of affluence such as big West German and American cars. President Sadat bitterly added: "I want you to realise that I shall never forgive them (the plotters) for carrying out this criminal machination... until the last day of my life." "I want you, the people, even if I die, I want you to finish them off," he said. He repeatedly attacked the Soviet Union for its actions in Egypt. In the past and said Moscow opposed Egypt's liberalisation policy. "President Sadat said the 'Communists' had three objectives. These were to weaken Egypt's negotiating strength at a Middle East peace conference, to weaken Egypt's position in the Arab World, and to destroy Egypt's liberalisation policy. President Sadat's attacks on the Communists, paired with the bitter criticism of the Soviet Union, were accompanied by a fierce blast against the Nasser era and the Nasserites. "There is no longer any distinction between the communists and the heirs of Nasser," he said. Telling the end to Nasserism, Mr. Sadat observed: "Nasser was destroyed on June 5, 1967. He understood that it was a personal defeat. The defeat killed him." He continued: "We have done much more than Nasser. We achieved the impossible. We waged the October War." But, he said, while he had settled the problems of Nasser's heritage, "I did not manage to put an end to rancour." Mr. Sadat said the riots of Jan. 18 and 19 were not a popular uprising, as some had contended, but were an "uprising of thieves."

Khaddam returns home

CAIRO, Feb. 3 (Agencies). — Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam left here for Damascus today after a visit of several hours in Egypt and talks with Egyptian leaders. Mr. Khaddam conferred for an hour with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy before calling on President Anwar Sadat. He declined to make any statement following the talks. Observers here noted that Mr. Khaddam's visit coincided with that of United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Mr. Khaddam, who was accompanied by Maj-Gen. Najj Jamil, the Syrian air force commander, told reporters on arrival the visit was within the framework of continued consultations and contacts between the two countries. He said a date for a tripartite summit in Khartoum, between President Assad, Sadat and Jaafar Nimeri would be discussed during his talks here. This is expected to be held some time this month. Egypt and Syria agreed last December to create a unified political command. Mr. Khaddam said the names of the command's members would also be discussed.

Syrian army magazine warns Israeli takeover of South Lebanon likely

BEIRUT, Feb. 3 (R). — The armed forces magazine today warned that Israel might overtake southern Lebanon before a summit or high level Arab meeting to agree on how to face the crisis. Al Shaab (people's) said anyone following Israel's declarations after a peace force unit moves to the southern Lebanese Nabatiyah last month undoubtedly realise their intentions and exist ideas. A hard-line editorial said it is all known that part of Lebanon had long been under Israeli military domination. Israeli patrols move in this area with complete freedom, search cars, search houses, search people, search cars, search houses. The magazine increased their control over the bloody events in Lebanon, and opened the door to Lebanese workers in the area is under the control of Israel, and only in the area is under the control of Lebanon. Al Shaab continued: "Only thing needed for the annexation of this area to Israel is a favourable international climate, so will become like the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Sinai." The magazine complained that had been no concerted response to Israeli threats. Israel might interpret silence as a new retreat and a justification to move to the world that it is taking over southern Lebanon. Al Shaab concluded a call for a new Arab summit or a meeting of foreign defence ministers to "take necessary measures to re-

Relations between Damascus, Tripoli deteriorate following reported expulsion of Syrian workers

DAMASCUS, Feb. 3 (R). — Libya's ambassador to Syria left for home today after being recalled by Tripoli after a sudden decline in relations between the two countries. As he was leaving, the foreign ministry here told reporters that Libyans ransacked the Syrian consulate in Benghazi five days ago. Informed sources said that up to 30 Syrian businessmen who had been living in Tripoli have come home in the past few days, saying the Libyan authorities had "suggested" they should leave. Political sources, reporting that Syria had asked Libya to clarify whether deportations were taking place, said they would be astonished by such a move. "Such a sorry action does not serve the Arab nation," was one comment. According to the Arab sources, the Libyan Ambassador, Ahmad Ibn Khayyat, was recalled after the arrest of Syrian troops in Lebanon by Lt. Ahmad Al Khatib, leader of

the breakaway Lebanese Arab Army (LAA). Khatib, who led a mutiny by mostly Moslem troops against the Lebanese army a year ago, was arrested by Syrian peace-keeping forces between Beirut and Sidon two weeks ago and brought to Damascus with two other LAA officers, informed sources said. It was not known whether they were being held here, but the Syrian action apparently provoked Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, who regarded the young lieutenant as a rising Moslem leftist. The first report of the deportation of Syrians from Libya came from the official Egyptian Middle East News Agency (MENA), which quoted travellers reaching Beirut from Benghazi. Many thousands of Syrians work in Libya. In Cairo, visiting Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam was asked about the reports and replied: "It is regrettable that an Arab government resorts to taking meas-

Palace shoot-out by Ethiopian leadership leaves 7 men dead

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 3 (R). — The Ethiopian head of state, Brig. Gen. Teferi Bante, and six other top members of the ruling Military Council were killed in a battle at the Grand Palace headquarters here today, the victorious group announced. Addis Ababa Radio said they had been "executed" for being members of an underground Marxist group, a right-wing faction and an Eritrean secessionist organisation. Without saying who was responsible for the killings, it said Lt-Col. Mengistu Haile-Mariam, First Vice Chairman of the council, or Dergue, was safe. Col. Mengistu had effectively been leader of the Dergue since it was formed in 1974, when it toppled Emperor Haile Selassie. But his grip on power was believed to have slackened recently. In the shooting at the palace -- earlier described as a coup attempt -- one colonel at the side of Col. Mengistu was killed by Brig-Gen. Teferi's group, the radio said. Some civilians were reported wounded.

The radio announcement tonight on the "executions" said it was now time for the revolution that began with the overthrow of the late emperor to go on the offensive. With a curfew clamped on the city at 9 pm following the shooting at the palace -- where tanks stood guard -- there was no opportunity to widely test public reaction to the deaths. But several Ethiopians expressed shock, although there had been constant talk of conflict within the Dergue. Col. Mengistu tonight was seen as the commanding force in the council once again. The other dead council members were identified as Lt-Col. Asrat Desta, Lt-Col. Hiruy Haile Selassie, Capt. Tefera Deneke and Corp. Halu Belay. As well as the EPRP, the radio broadcast frequently mentioned the rightwing Ethiopian Democratic Union (EDU) and the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) in connection with the dead men.



MOSCOW MEET -- Iraq's Saddam Hussein and CPSU Chairman Leonid Brezhnev pose for photographers shortly after meeting at the Kremlin Thursday. (AP wirephoto).

Saddam Hussein ends 3-day Soviet visit

MOSCOW, Feb. 3 (R). — Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein apparently maintained his country's opposition to a resumption of the Geneva Middle East Peace Conference during a three-day official visit to Moscow, which ended today. Mr. Hussein, Vice-Chairman of Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council, conferred with Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev before flying to Ankara. The official Tass News Agency said the Middle East was the key international issue at the meeting, which passed "in a spirit of solidarity." But the Tass report made no

mention of the Geneva conference, whose resumption Mr. Brezhnev advocated in a major policy speech last month. Iraq has opposed the idea of the conference. Tass said Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Hussein confirmed that their countries would assist "efforts by interested sides for a just and durable peace in the Middle East" and would continue all-round aid to the Palestine resistance movement. Tass said the Soviet and Iraqi leaders declared that all-round cooperation was mounting between their countries and they pledged to increase it further in the political, economic, cultural and other fields.

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An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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An almost beautiful and perfect beast

The Carter administration has let no time pass before it rang the bell of freedom for all people to hear around the world. President Carter himself has led the rising crescendo of America's commitment to preserve human rights throughout the nations of the globe where it thinks human rights are being abused. The commitment to human rights has also been affirmed repeatedly by Vice President Mondale and Secretary of State Vance, and it is clear the new administration has set for itself the goal of making the human rights issue a cornerstone of its foreign policy. The amazing thing about American leaders is that when they say this sort of thing, they genuinely mean it, and they will try and carry through with their pledges.

The Americans have never shied away from riding the white horse of moral goodness, and have recently sought to ride that horse straight into the living rooms of other people, notably in East Europe and the Soviet Union. This sort of thing is to be encouraged, if only because freedom is to be encouraged over slavery, and personal liberty over servitude.

But America's fresh drive to guarantee human rights all over the world seems to us a little bit flawed, like a diamond that is almost perfect. On closer examination, one finds that the American commitment to be noble is not universally applied, and because of its selectivity it loses much of its initial and innate goodness. We think particularly of the blatant hypocrisy in an America that tries to guarantee human rights in East Europe but simultaneously sees its step-child state of Israel systematically making mincemeat of human rights in the occupied Arab areas. This sort of thing is very embarrassing for the human rights advocates in the U.S. Senate, and so it is not often discussed there. It's not surprising, because one's hypocrisy and one's moral vacuums are rarely brought up for public discussion when the business of the day is to make East European and Soviet dissidents free.

One wonders whether human rights only belong where the U.S. congressional and executive leaderships say they belong? The Israelis have trampled on fundamental human rights in occupied Arab lands in a manner that is just as bad, if not worse, than what the Russians and the East Europeans do. The details of Israeli actions in this sphere are to be found in various U.N. reports. These will show that the same United States that seeks to assert human rights in the Soviet Bloc also plays a direct role in denying Arab human rights in Palestine.

Will anyone in the U.S. Senate stand up and ask aloud whether the concept of guaranteeing universal and fundamental human rights is also to be mortgaged to the special moralistic veto power of Israel? Has anyone in America bothered to ask whether the American leaders who talk about human rights enjoy their own full rights of seeing the world as it is, instead of as Israel wants them to see it?

The white horse of freedom is lame, and those who ride it so proudly do not know it. Will somebody please tell them before they fall off and embarrass themselves?



Economic coordination is on

By Richard L. Strout

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). One of the biggest international economic rescue efforts in modern history is taking shape here. The object is to coordinate the world's three leading economies -- the United States, West Germany, and Japan -- into a synchronized effort to revive the world economy and head off a possible new global slump.

These steps have been taken or are planned: -- The new Carter administration, has sent Richard E. Cooper, Yale economist and Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs, to Tokyo to coordinate policies.

-- Vice-President Walter F. Mondale just completed a worldwide, high-visibility swing in furtherance of the same international goals, again with focus on Germany and Japan.

-- President Carter is expected to attend a new economic summit conference this summer, possibly in Washington, duplicating the summit conference last June in Puerto Rico attended by President Ford.

The likely Carter summit conference will focus on stimulating the world economy, particularly of the big three nations, whereas Mr. Ford's meeting in Puerto Rico was designed to put a damper on global inflation by preaching a gold-slow approach.

Since then the recovery has

first faltered, and now picked up again. But the rate is not commensurate with the big gap left by the recession, though it is about as fast as those from smaller recessions of recent years.

Coordination is crucial, it is believed, between the U.S., West Germany and Japan: (A) To forestall restrictive practices and beggar-my-neighbor tariffs;

(B) To revive world trade by coordinated domestic stimulative packages (like the \$30 billion, two-year Carter proposal in the United States);

(C) To make a common front to huge debt imbalances created by the quadrupling of oil prices and, in particular, to help developing and poor countries which have gigantic external debts, reckoned in one estimate at \$150 billion.

Banks in the leading European countries have international "Eurocurrency" loans out of perhaps \$275 billion. Nobody wants to think what would happen if a small country, like a small bank in the United States 100 years ago, simply declared itself insolvent. This is not going to happen, Western leaders confidently assert, but it is only reasonable to coordinate policies and set common goals so it can't happen.

This, in effect, is what's being done. The pending Carter economic stimulus package is being considered in the United States almost wholly as a domestic

issue. Actually, for better or worse, it ties into world developments. At hearings in Washington recently before the Senate Budget Committee, new expressions of concern appeared. What is striking is the almost universal emphasis on the domestic inflation-unemployment problem in the United States, and not the world picture.

IN PERSPECTIVE By Jenab Tutuni

An alternative to Geneva

By and large, there seems to be a consensus among the Arab states that Middle East peace talks should resume at Geneva. Iraq and Libya are exceptions to the rule, but strenuous efforts are being made to get them to tone down their opposition. The other notable exception is the Palestinian resistance movement, which favours taking the question to the United Nations.

As matters stand, the remaining Arabs have succeeded in getting some action in response to their insistence on Geneva as the natural venue for the conference. U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim is already in the Middle East and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is expected by the middle of the month. Both men seem to have set their sights on Geneva.

Yet Israel seems to be completely oblivious to all this. When Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin called for a new round of early general elections, many people thought that this, coupled with the break-up of the alliance with the National Religious Party, would facilitate peace moves. Yet what is in fact happening? Israeli politicians, including Defence Minister Shimon Peres, are going around telling settlers on the West Bank that they need not fear being moved in the context of any future peace settlement.

The latest poll indicates as far as the electorate concerned, the question of peace takes third place to the country's economic and social difficulties. Israel is immersed in a Watergate of its own at the moment, it would seem, what with the scandals affecting the governor designate of the Central Bank and the suicide of Housing Minister Avraham Ofer.

Senior sources at the Israeli Foreign Ministry have also let it be known that they do not expect the peace issue to be tackled before the elections are over. Meanwhile, it looks very much as though the elections will have an inconclusive result and new elections will have to be called soon. Which simply brings us back to square one.

While an Israeli stalemate looms at the polls, the Israelis are still moving in a dream world of their own.

Israel has been insisting on a "real" peace settlement, meaning the establishment of economic relations, diplomatic ties and even tourist exchanges with the Arab countries, but since Israel is clearly not willing to pay anything near the full price for that, then the Israeli demand for "real" peace is nothing more than an insurmountable obstacle. Israel is not ready to return all the territories occupied in 1967 as a starter then Israel is simply asking for the impossible. We are after all interested in realistic negotiations. Dream worlds are not the business of serious politicians.

J.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim already said that peace cannot wait on the Israeli elections or the enlargement of Palestinian National Council. Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy has said that efforts to reconvene the Geneva conference March do not succeed then his government would take the matter to the U.N. Security Council.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation of course been eyeing going to the UN Nations all along where Israel will not be able to call all the cards as far as Palestine representation is concerned. Clearly it will have a much smaller say in the shape of the peace settlement if the matter taken up by the General Assembly or the Security Council, where the United States could, if it wanted, make its tempering influence felt.

The acknowledged problem with UN Nations resolutions the fact that they do carry any water unless they are backed by sanctions. Israel is not likely to accept agreement that is thrust on it as binding an Arab victory at the United Nations or be a hollow victory indeed.

Yet matters could take an entirely different turn this time around if the Americans choose. The United States could turn United Nations into a forum through which it could exert indirect pressure on Israel the name of the world community. That could be a novel departure from precedent -- could bring about the much needed breakthrough.

The Carter administration will not be paranoid about the voting power of the UN and Nixon administrations were with Henry Kissinger at the helm of the State Department. President Carter has in fact known that his approach to the UN World is going to be much more accurate. He is of course just as zealous as predecessors about the interests of Israel; he is in a position to take a more far sighted view of what Israel really needs than a batch of politicians scrambling for votes the coming Israeli general elections.

The manifest advantage of letting the handle the matter is that this will completely circumvent the question of PLO recognition Israel, which Israel does not want anyway; well as the question of Israel sitting at face with what it regards as a "terrorist organisation".

An added advantage is that it will give time for a peace settlement to take hold for the parties concerned have to tackle thorny question of full recognition and malisation of relations, so that if this indeed come it will not be forced and it will have had time to accommodate itself to the idea.

Egypt... the sheer pressure of population

By Helena Cobban

The Christian Science Monitor News Service CAIRO, EGYPT -- For those who wonder what caused the tornado of anger which swept through Egypt's cities last week, a half hour spent in one of Cairo's bus terminals would provide some illumination.

Within the capital, every conceivable form of mass transit has been called into use. There are buses, trains, trolleys, taxis and an above-ground "metro". But still there are not enough vehicles to take the city's eight million residents where they want to go.

In the bus terminal, unruly crowds of males of all ages straggle around the entrances, waiting for the next fully loaded bus to arrive. Even before it stops men and boys grab any handhold on its side to lever themselves inside through doors or windows.

In the fray, the alighting passengers manage to push themselves through. As the departing bus picks up speed, more would-be passengers run along behind and beside, perhaps to grasp onto fenders, for the duration of their journey.

Few women choose to risk travel inside these seething masses of humanity. If the woman must travel, she must join those males who, having any pretension at all to having risen above the social level of their poorer brothers, travel around the city by taxi.

The other day my taxi driver picked up a woman had been waiting to return from the central market 3 1/2 hours. It was, she said, about average for that part of the city.

The pressure on public transport points up one of the main problems of the city -- the sheer pressure of population. (Thus when the riots started, it has been estimated that two million people could congregate in certain areas of the capital after walking for less than 15 minutes.)

This population has led to a steady worsening of the conditions. The construction of Suez Canal cities since before 1973 should have led to the refugees' housing in Cairo and elsewhere being released for the indigenous population.

But officials have been surprised to find that deep steady flow of Suez Canal families back to their homes vacancies have thereby resulted. There are no figures room-occupancy rates, but one estimate puts at 10 average number of urban family members who share housing unit -- and these usually consist of two small rooms.

Rents are low in these units. But so are wages. minimum daily wage here is \$1.15 for a single man marginally higher for a married man. A soldier or police earns \$39 a month and newly graduating doctor \$73. workers, especially in unskilled jobs such as construction labouring, earn less than the official minimum.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Of the editorials published Thursday in the Jordanian dailies, one dealt with President Sarkis' visit to Syria, while the other discussed Mr. Waldheim's Middle East tour, which started Wednesday.

AL RAI expects the joint Syrian-Lebanese communique to include only a review of important items, as the Lebanese dossier is inexhaustible. The Cairo accord regulating relations between the Palestinians and the Lebanese will most certainly figure in the communique, the paper says, as this agreement has become a local Lebanese case, and thus is of interest to Syria.

The argument on the presence of the Arab peace-keeping force and the possibility for its swift replacement by Lebanese units will also be included, the paper adds, in particular after Syria has equipped the Lebanese interior security forces with the necessary military equipment to enable it to carry out its police duties.

bridge linking Lebanon to the Arab World. AL DUSTOUR, commenting on Mr. Waldheim's declarations at the start of his Middle East tour, says: "It seems that the U.N. Secretary General is trying to check the optimistic trends that are pervading the area about the possibility and certainty of the reconvening of the Geneva conference this spring, when he declared his 'cautious optimism' on that issue in Cairo on the first leg of his tour."

On the Arab side, the paper says, no obstacles have been placed to hinder the reconvening of the conference in the spring or even earlier.

Not so on the Israeli side, the paper adds. Israel has, and is still trying to avoid the conference by raising objections to the participation of the PLO, saying that the conference should be reconvened only after the Israeli elections are over, or questioning the capacity of the Soviet Union to co-chair the conference under the pretext of its being biased to the Arab viewpoint.

Mr. Waldheim's efforts to reconvene the Geneva conference should be supported and praised but should not be considered by the Arabs as their only hope to recover their usurped rights. We should remind the Arabs, the paper says, that no substitute for political, military and economic force could be more efficient to allow them to recover their usurped rights, either by using that force as a means of pressure to bring about the reconvening of the Geneva conference or by adopting any other methods.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)
 7:00 Morning melodies
 7:30 News
 7:40 News reports
 8:00 Sign off
 10:00 Listeners choice
 11:00 My kind of music
 11:30 Catch the words
 11:45 Arab scientists
 12:00 Pop session
 13:00 News summary
 13:05 Pop session
 14:00 News

14:10 Radio magazine
 14:30 Good vibrations
 15:00 Concert hour
 16:00 Old favourites
 16:30 Easy listening
 17:00 Jordan weekly
 17:30 Pop session
 18:00 News summary
 18:05 15 weekly
 18:15 Music
 18:30 Varieties
 19:00 News
 19:10 Music

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:
 10:00 Quran
 10:15 Cartoons
 10:30 Arabic series
 11:00 Three stooges
 11:15 Religious programme
 12:30 Cultural programme
 13:00 Arabic series
 14:30 Soccer match
 16:00 The Waltons
 16:50 Arabic series
 17:30 Cultural programme
 18:00 Arabic series
 18:45 Gunsmoke

20:00 News in Arabic
 Channel 3:
 19:30 Religious programme
 20:30 Arabic series
 21:20 Reportage

Channel 6:
 19:30 News in Hebrew
 19:45 Varieties
 20:30 Cilla's world of comedy
 21:10 The angels
 22:00 News in English
 22:15 Kojak

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 Al Shifa
 Zarqa: Zarqa
 Matalika
 Al Shaab
 Pharmacies:
 Amman: University (61001)
 Nahda (63003)
 Khayam (41541)
 Shadi (25665)
 Medical City (4281)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:
 7:55 Cairo (EA)
 10:30 Beirut
 11:15 Aleppo, Damascus (SAA)
 12:05 Aqaba (SAA)
 15:00 Bucharest (Tarom)
 16:00 Kuwait (KAC)
 16:20 Madina, Jeddah, Ha'il, Tref (SDI)
 17:00 Cairo
 17:05 Jeddah, Tabuk, Madina (SDD)
 17:15 Paris, Rome
 18:10 Madrid, Athens
 19:40 Beirut (MEA)
 21:25 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)
 23:00 Rome (Alitalia)

Departures:
 8:00 Beirut
 8:45 Beirut (MEA)
 8:45 Cairo (EA)
 10:10 Athens, Amsterdam (KLM)
 10:30 Cairo
 12:00 Aqaba (SAA)
 14:45 Damascus (SAA)
 16:45 Kuwait (KAC)
 17:10 Tabuk, Madina, Jeddah (SDI)
 19:30 Dubai, Karachi
 20:00 Kuwait
 20:30 Tehran
 22:55 Doha, Muscat
 01:15 Dubai (Alitalia)

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT 03:00 The Breakfast Show : 03:00, 04:00, 05:00, and 06:00 GMT : News, Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary, 03:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT. An informal presentation of popular music and feature reports and interviews, answers to 21:00 listeners' questions, Science Digest...
 17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analyses, News Summary.
 17:30 Forum
 18:00 Special English, News, 21:30

BBC RADIO

GMT 05:00 World News: 24 hours
 05:30 Sarah Ward
 05:45 The World Today
 06:00 News; Press Review
 06:30 My Kind of Music
 07:00 News; 24 hours
 07:30 Sarah Ward
 07:45 Merchant Navy Programme
 08:00 News; Reflections
 08:15 Music for Wind Instruments
 08:30 Jazz Club
 08:50 News; Press Review
 09:15 The World Today
 09:45 Sword of Honour
 10:15 Merchant Navy
 10:30 Folk and Country
 11:00 News
 11:15 Face of England
 11:30 Discovery
 11:30 Radio Newsreel
 12:00 Composer and interpreter
 12:45 Sports Round-up
 13:00 News; 24 hours
 13:30 New Ideas
 13:40 Ulster This Week
 13:45 Don Moss Requests

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 Fire headquarters " 22090
 First aid, fire, police " 19
 Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) " 36381-2
 Municipal water service (emergency) " 37111-3
 Police headquarters " 39141
 Najdeh, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help " 21111, 37777

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American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41520
 British Council " 36147-8
 French Cultural Centre " 37009
 Goethe Institute " 41983
 Soviet Cultural Centre " 42283
 Amman Municipal Library " 38111

هكذا صوت القوم

By Jenab

Jordan, Syria agree on draft law encourage foreign investments



and Syrian delegations wind up meetings of the joint economic committee in Amman (JNA photo).

(JNA). — The Joint Syrian Economic Co-Thursday agreed on a to unify the encour- of investment laws in Jordan.

raft law includes the sation of incentives by the two countries the fields of tourism, and public services

like hotels, hospitals and restau- urants.

It also grants Arab and fore- ign investors, possibilities for free transfer of capitals, and protection against nationalisa- tion and confiscation acts.

The draft law grants facili- ties to investors wishing to im- plement projects outside the main cities.

The committee which ended its meetings here at the Mini-

stry of Industry and Commer- ce Thursday will hold its se- cond meeting at the end of February to pass the draft law and submit it for approval by the Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee.

The Jordanian team to the talks was led by the Under-Sec- retary of the Ministry of Indus- try and Commerce, Dr. Ha- sbem Dabbas, and the Syrian team by Dr. Abdallah Azmeh.

Broadcasting conference to be convened in Aqaba

AMMAN (JNA). — The Mini- ster of Information, Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh, Tuesday will open the conference of the Euro- pean Broadcasting Services Fed- eration to be convened in Aq- aba, and will include the rep- resentatives of television cor- porations and news agencies in Europe and America, it was announced here Thursday.

The conference will start Monday with a preliminary meeting to decide on its agenda which will include a com- prehensive study of television news exchange among the mem- bers of the federation, voca- tional training, the establish-

ment of a bank for television newsreels, methods of utilising satellites to cover news and other special international occasions, and the exchange of news with other broadcasting federations.

The agenda will also, inclu- de ways of co-operation be- tween the federation and inter- national organisations such as the United Nations, the Red Cross, the European Economic Community, and the European Parliament.

The conference will be held at an invitation extended by the Jordan Television Corpora- tion which is a working mem- ber of the federation.

Jordan, France to cooperate in communications

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Communications, Mr. Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, Thursday received the French ambas- sador to Jordan and discussed with him the possibility of ex- panding the existing co-opera- tion between France and Jordan in the field of communications.

Both men expressed their countries willingness to stren- gthen and widen the scope of

co-operation in different aspe- cts.

The French ambassador banded the minister a memorandum about the possibility of the French Technical Centre for Special Studies, a government ass- ociation, to work as an advi- sor to the project of the Arab satellite project which will be established to develop and ex- pand the different means of communication among the Arab countries.

Commercial plans with Egypt for '77 to be discussed

CAIRO (JNA). — The Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Commer- cial Committee will convene here from Feb. 14-16 to dis- cuss the commercial plan for 1977 between the two coun- tries.

The volume of commercial exchange between Jordan and Egypt during 1976 totalled 12 million Egyptian pounds.

Egypt's exports to Jordan included, figs, rice, potatoes, and onions while its imports from Jordan were lead, anti- mony, batteries, shoe leather, wool, scrap iron and a number of chemicals.

The meetings of the commit- tee will be presided over by the Jordanian Minister of Commerce, Mr. Najmeddine Al Dajani, and his Egyptian coun- terpart, Mr. Zakaria Tawfiq Abdul Fattah.

NATIONAL NOTES

IN. — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday sent a cable wishes to Sri Lanka's President William Gopallawa on occasion of his country's national day.

IN. — A delegation from the Arabic Language Body, comes for Tripoli, Libya, to attend the third Arabisation which is to start its meetings there Sunday.

IN. — The Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament of the Arab Parliamentary Union, Mr. Bahjat Talaouy leaves for Mauritania's capital, Nouakchott, to attend meetings of the African Parliamentary Union due to start Feb. 19.

IN. — The military governor Thursday confirmed the five on sentences passed by the military court on each of Jordanians convicted for the possession and addition of



His Majesty King Hussein visits the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces in Amman Thursday. He was received by the Commander-in-Chief, Lt. Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker, the chief of staff and his assistants, and His Majesty's Military Secretary, the General Inspector of the Armed Forces.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much hit would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency: BBN

U.K. sterling	573.0	579.0
U.S. dollar	333.0	335.0
German mark	138.1	138.5
French franc	67.2	67.5
Swiss franc	132.8	133.2
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.9	38.1
Saudi riyal	94.5	94.8
Lebanese pound	110.0	112.0
Syrian pound	82.0	82.4
Iraqi dinar	940.0	948.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1150.	1155.
Egyptian pound	475.0	480.0
Libyan dinar	770.0	790.0
UAE dirham	85.0	85.7

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Your editorial of Thursday is more new proof, if more is needed, that traffic conditions in Jordan are far from satisfactory. Indeed, they are deteriorating continuously and taking rather dangerous dimensions.

You may be interested to know that a group of civic minded citizens has consequently formed "The Jordan Society For The Prevention of Road Accidents", of which I was honoured to become the first president.

One of the main aims of this society is to alert the public to the dangerous traffic conditions in the country, to prod the authorities to do more to solve this problem and to appeal to the citizens to cooperate fully with those authorities in their endeavours to save the country of the social and economic consequences of traffic problems that plague Jordan.

While saluting the Jordan Times for continuously rendering its valuable support to this and similar public service activities, we would like to appeal to your readers, Jordanians and foreigners alike, motorists and pedestrians, who are keenly interested in and worried by this problem, who are willing to help and serve, to get in touch with the Society via P.O. Box 9450, Amman.

There is plenty to be done, and we are in bad need of support, volunteers, ideas and all what people of good will could and would be able to contribute to the society.

Sami Al Habiby,
President.

LOOK OF THE LAND



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JIMMY CARTER FACE TO FACE WITH GLOBAL REALITY - IV

Is U.S. energy policy slowly leading towards an impasse

By Takashi Oka

PARIS, (CSM). — Someday, perhaps 50 years hence, the inhabitants of earth are going to marvel that their grandfathers considered oil almost as cheap as water or air.

The quarrel between oil-producing nations, at Doha in Qatar in December, over whether oil prices should be increased by 10 per cent or by 5 per cent will be seen then as an ephemeral episode on the road from abundance to scarcity of this sticky black liquid.

OPEC, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, decided at Doha to raise petroleum prices by 10 per cent Jan. 1 and a further 5 per cent next summer. But two major OPEC members, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, said they would raise prices only 5 per cent.

Our descendants will find it hard to believe that the United States, the richest, most powerful nation on earth, delayed its transition from an oil-based economy to one relying on other forms of energy for so many years, by keeping the price of oil at a level half that of the international market.

And when they look at Saudi Arabia, the world's largest exporter of oil for most of the years of abundance, what will they find? Will it be a nation grown wealthy on wise investments and on industrialisation during the years of plenty, leading an Arab renaissance and playing an important, respected role in the corridors of world power?

Or will it be desert sucked dry of the black gold, its wealth dissipated by conspicuous consumption, its people padding barefoot into the 21st century as they came barefoot into the 20th?

In the short run, with every major Western nation still struggling to climb out of recession and the outlook for 1977 bleakly uncertain, the OPEC split has been greeted with almost audible sighs of relief.

But in the long run, every world leader knows that oil is a finite resource and that mankind has only half a century at most within which to make a transition from oil to some other source of energy.

To nations that believe in and practice the capitalist free enterprise system, the challenge is this: Is price the only mechanism capable of forcing

the transition in time?

The strength of the free nations has always been in their mental resources, in that untrammelled atmosphere that permitted a maximum application of ingenuity and inventiveness to whatever problems were at hand.

Mankind's danger today is not so much that oil itself will run out as that nations have become too dependent on this single source of energy to bestir themselves into working out alternative sources, whether of coal or of nuclear power or of more exotic forms of energy — wind, wave, or sun.

For the nations of the world to make a smooth transition from economies fuelled by oil to those energised by alternative sources, a far closer coordination of efforts, a far more concerted global approach than the international community has yet attempted is going to be required.

Pessimists say that mankind is not ready for such an effort. The alternative is economic chaos, an increasingly desperate international scramble for scarcer and scarcer oil, and quite possibly, war.

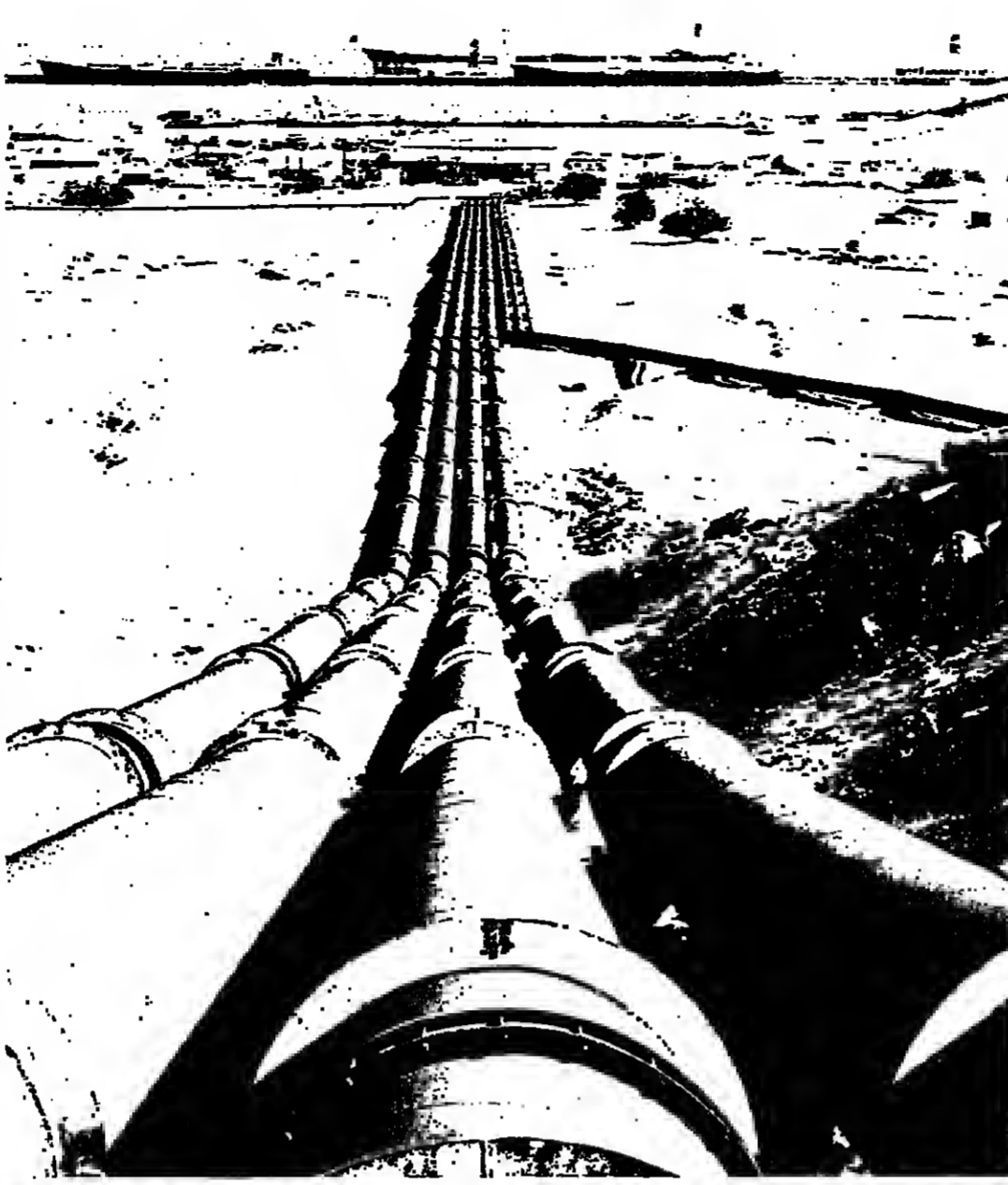
The energy crisis and the handling of three-cornered relations between the rich, industrialised oil-consuming nations, the oil-producing nations and the developing nations lacking oil may well be the most important international task confronting the Carter administration.

The theme is so vast, its politico-economic ramifications so intertwined, that superpower relations with the Soviet Union may seem infinitely tidier and more manageable by comparison.

Ever since the oil shock of 1973, when Arab producers embargoed exports to the United States and the Netherlands and oil prices quadrupled, the industrialised nations of Western Europe and North America along with Japan have pursued a double-barrelled policy: to try to find alternative sources of energy as quickly as possible, and in the meantime to try to keep oil prices from rising any higher.

They have paid mainly lip service to the first goal, while bringing every possible political and economic pressure to bear in pursuit of the second.

The producing nations, banded together in the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, also have followed a double objective: to



Big 48-inch pipes carry crude oil to jetty on Khark Island off Iran for loading on tankers that will carry fuel to thirsty industrial customers around the world.

industrialise and diversify their economies while their oil wealth lasts, and to stretch out that oil for as long as possible.

Finally, the developing nations without oil, some of which have other resources such as bauxite or copper, phosphates or iron, have tried on the one hand to form producer cartels on the model of OPEC, and on the other hand to seek aid from OPEC and the industrialised nations so as to alleviate the crushing double burden of quadrupled oil prices

and the accumulated debts of the past. Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's constant theme has been that the industrialised nations must band together to deal effectively with OPEC.

So far, however, the industrialised nations have made little progress, either in forming a coordinated energy policy among themselves, or in working out a global approach to the interrelated problems of energy, resources and development.

The Conference on International Economic Cooperation, the so-called North-South dialogue, has adjourned without agreeing on an agenda for the ministerial level conference, which itself has been postponed to give the new Carter administration time to spell out its own policies. The Ford-Kissinger approach tended to be one of confrontation with OPEC and of trying to split OPEC from non-oil-producing developing countries.

This approach has not worked, in the opinion of international organisation officials here, because of a fundamental miscalculation on Washington's part: the idea that the OPEC countries could be squeezed between pressures coming on the one hand from the rich industrialised countries and on the other hand from oil-less developing countries like India.

"OPEC countries could see," one official says, "that their only bargaining chip against the rich countries was oil. That was not enough. They had to have the leverage represented by the so-called 77 — the developing countries of the world."

Behind the scenes, there has certainly been pressure on OPEC from India and other developing countries to keep their price rises moderate. But overall, the sense of community between the newly rich OPEC countries and the non-oil-producing developing countries has been maintained.

Under the Ford-Kissinger administration, the United States has shied away from the concept of global solutions for oil, commodities, trade, development aid and associated problems. It would prefer a dialogue between oil producers and consumers in which the producers would acknowledge their responsibility to provide a continuing flow of oil at "reasonable" prices.

The developing countries, meanwhile, see that oil gives them the only leverage they can ever exercise as a whole against the industrialised countries. Even rich Saudi Arabia, the linchpin of OPEC, with nearly one-fifth of the world's proved, published oil reserves, shares this view. It, too, is a developing country, and its oil once gone is gone forever.

In short term, Saudi Arabia has insisted on keeping oil price rises moderate, because it sees that the industrialised nations are barely beginning to climb out of recession and that if the world economy goes into a new tailspin, OPEC and developing countries alike will be hurt.

But over the long term there is no question that Saudi Arabia wants to board its oil as long as possible, to make it last 50 years or more instead of 30. Oil in the ground is far better than depreciating cash in one's hands.

"Saudi Arabia," in other words, is not hostile to the idea of a higher price for oil. Indeed, many Western experts

are themselves convinced that without substantially higher prices than at present, the industrialised nations will never make the required effort to move from oil to other sources of energy.

"In straight economic terms," says one international official, "it might make sense for all of us to use up the oil that's available, and then go on to other things, to coal, nuclear power through fission, and, way down the future, nu-

But some officials, what extravagant use it makes of its oil, how can gasoline prices remain than half those of other industrialised nations? how the industrialised world a whole still blickly-d on automobiles and on electricity for much of energy needs, are beginning that dialogue and, sion are going to be in ent.



clear power through fusion.

"For the United States, it might make sense to import Middle Eastern oil, as long as that is available, busbanding its own oil reserves and going on to coal, to oil shale, or tar sands when oil itself has been exhausted.

"Politically, of course, such a course of action simply is not possible," this official says. "The United States does not own Middle Eastern oil, and OPEC producers are not going to allow their only exploitable resource to be used up to suit the exclusive needs of the rich industrialised nations. There simply is no alternative to a concerted approach to the problem, and this approach has got to bring in all consumers of oil, not just the rich ones and the producers."

It is said of President Carter that, during his campaign, the presidency, he said well-known Middle East. I pert said he would accept the condition that Mr. make a campaign pledge use gasoline taxes.

Mr. Carter found himself able to do so, and the remained on the sidelines.

Will Mr. Carter, now President, have the courage demand the kind of men's from Americans will be required to move, huge, complex, immediate energy to one if more diversified and has re open to substitution form of energy for

Next: Will there be food for a hungry world?

Europeans fear Japanese economic invasion

TOKYO (CSM) — "Don't you think," the Japanese Trade Ministry official said a bit wistfully, "that supplying quality goods at reasonable prices to the world market is our contribution to the world economy?"

West Europeans, whose trade deficit with Japan in 1976 is expected to reach \$4.2 billion, emphatically do not agree. They see a steady inflow of Japanese goods menacing employment and hence the stability of their own societies in fields as diverse as shipbuilding and television sets.

Shipbuilding is currently the critical point in Japanese relations with nine member European Community (EC). The industry has been in a worldwide slump for the past couple of

The EC has said that if Japan refuses to come to terms it will take steps to safeguard its own home market. So far, the Japanese seem to regard the threat as a bluff. They expect that the major shipbuilding countries of the EC, such as Britain, France, West Germany and Denmark, will have difficulty coordinating their policies to the required degree.

In this climate, the next rounds of shipbuilding talks are not expected to move the two sides appreciably closer to a compromise.

Behind these economic disputes there is a fundamental problem of communication and understanding between Japan

and Western Europe. The Europeans tend to think of Japan as an upstart competitor, remote from them geographically, and with a culture that is difficult for outsiders to penetrate.

There is no security tie between Europe and Japan as there is between Europe and the United States or between Japan and the United States. Nor does Japan import huge quantities of food and coal from Europe, as it does from the U.S.

The economies of Europe and Japan tend to be competitive rather than complementary. Without a strong effort by both sides to find common ground,

continuous friction between them seems certain.

An official recently returned from a tour of European shipyards claimed that the Japanese could turn out ships cheaper than any other country because they had worked continuously at modernising, computerising, and making more efficient the shipbuilding process.

"Why should we be made the scapegoat for the inefficiency of others?" he asked his sympathetic home audience. This is dangerous emotional ground. "Do you want us to work less hard?" The Japanese in effect are saying, "Do you want us to go into debt to pay our oil bill, which at \$20 billion a year is twice that of Britain,

or West Germany, or France? We are a people with no raw materials to speak of. It is true that we are geographically remote from you, but after all we do share the same basic commitment to democracy and to an orderly system of world trade."

"What we need between Europe and Japan," says Tadashi Yamamoto of the Japan Centre for International Exchange, "is a kind of early warning system, so that problems like shipbuilding, or television sets, or whatever, can be worked out before they turn into emotional confrontations."

Confrontation has been avoided so far, as the talking goes on.

Burdens on Soviet women force birth rate down

MOSCOW, (CSM) — Maria is energetic and cheerful — but she says life is hard.

Like 51 million other Soviet women, she has a job, and a husband and two children as well. Every day she has to shop for food before or after work. She has to cook, wash and clean without the labour-saving gadgets of a Western household.

One result is that she, and countless other Soviet women, flatly refuse to have any more children.

This in turn is presenting the Soviet Union with a serious problem: the birth rate is plummeting. Official concern is growing, a new spate of studies and debate is appearing, and severe labour shortages are predicted beginning in ten years' time.

Latest sign of concern is a lengthy article in a recent edition of the authoritative weekly writers journal, Literary Gazette.

The article follows the widely noted study last year by demographer Viktor Peresvedentsev. It said that the nation would have only five million new workers between 1985 and

the year 2000 — six times less than the 30 million new workers estimated to be available between 1970 and 1985.

If this happens, it would be a blow to the ambitious plans of the Soviet Union to catch up with U.S. output and performance. The prediction helps explain the constant emphasis here on improving the quality and efficiency of individual workers in the latest five-year plan.

More than two children per family is needed for steady population growth. In many areas, especially cities, the rate is now less.

In some ways, Maria is better off than many other working women here. She still has her mother living with her. She says frankly that without her mother, she would have to give up her job (which would reduce the family income).

At one time, grandmothers (babushkas) were common in the family circle. But now, according to the Literary Gazette, 85 per cent of young families live apart from their parents.

Since 90 per cent of married women work, no babushka means relying on nurseries,

which in some cases, will take a child as young as six months. Kindergarten starts at three. But there is an enormous shortage of kindergarten places now.

The Gazette discovered that only one-third (11.5 million) of the kindergarten-age children are able to attend. The other two-thirds (23 million) stay with friends, relatives or neighbours. Or their mothers stay at home.

"The current fall in the birth rate is a spontaneous response by women to (their) burdens," the Gazette writes. Many women, it has been reported, would prefer to stay at home than to juggle two lives.

What can be done? One answer is to build more nurseries and kindergartens — but even the 2.5 to 2.8 million new places to be built by 1980 will not be enough.

Another might be to provide shorter workweeks for all mothers of young children — a suggestion already made to the 25th Communist Party Congress and still under discussion.

The Gazette suggests that young parents might get together and share shopping and

babysitting. It estimates this could save 10 to 15 hours per week for a single set of parents. Between one-third and one-half of the parents said they would agree to such sharing, it says.

The current five-year plan calls for letting mothers stay at home until their children reach the age of one year, while still receiving part of their salaries. At present, women are entitled to a fully paid maternity leave of just under four months, according to the Soviet news agency Tass.

The nation long has paid allowances to families with many children. Two years ago the benefits were reorganised. If total family income is less than about \$70 a month, mothers receive \$15 per child.

Women with more than ten children are called "hero mothers" and are eligible for reduced rent and other benefits. The main difficulties, however, remain: Crowded living conditions, problems of shopping and the number of working women, now more than half the work force.

Solutions to these problems will take some time, observers believe.

According to U.S. report

Mothers come out top in influencing children

LOS ANGELES (CSM). — A four-year study of American family life has found that the only area in which fathers influence their children more than a mother's is religious behaviour.

But mothers are "substantially more influential" than fathers when it comes to religious belief (or non-belief), law and order, the work ethic, militarism, sexual permissiveness, politics and social change.

The survey — taken by two sociology professors at the University of Southern California and believed to be the first of its kind among a major metropolitan blue-collar population — contradicts many earlier findings on parental influence.

Moreover, according to its authors, Vern Bengtson and Alan Acock, it dispels some growing "myths" regarding the demise of the American family.

Among major conclusions: — Mothers have far greater influence on children than fathers do. "For a long time," says Mr. Bengtson, "sociology textbooks have suggested that children incorporate their fathers' values and orientation. By contrast, we've found that the mothers are the expressive leaders in the family... mothers are far more influential than fathers."

— Young people tend to share more of their parents' views of religion than their parents' views on politics.

— Fathers' and sons' views do not match up any more than fathers' and daughters'; neither do mothers' and daughters' attitudes.

— Families who describe themselves as "close" may still experience a "generation gap" in attitudes pertaining to poli-

tical beliefs and sexual permissiveness.

— Grandparents' places in the family stem from affection rather than automatic respect. "That's a change in the social ladder," says Mr. Bengtson. "We are now experiencing a different kind of family norm... Many infer that this means disrespect or lack of care. Our research shows that this is not the fact."

— Affection between generations is increasing. "The family bond is growing," Mr. Bengtson says. "It's still not koster to talk about how much you love your mother — except in a joking way. But they do."

Data for the study was drawn from a survey of 2,044 members of a health-care plan used by several Los Angeles-area labour unions. The 992 responses — each taking more than 90 minutes to complete — cover three generations. The adults ranged in age from 45 to 64, the children from 16 to 26.

The strongest variable in the survey, according to the authors, is the "parent's church attendance" — followed closely by depth of religious beliefs.

"This suggests two things," the study says. "First, parents who wish to transmit either a religious or nonreligious attitude can be more effective, if they clearly express this attitude themselves."

"Second, and perhaps more interesting, the parents can do even better if they practice their religious or nonreligious attitudes... thus (behaviour) is not only most effective for transmitting religious behaviour, but also for transmitting religious attitude."

Some of the survey's findings point to conclusions which

to many families, appear obvious:

— If the father attends church regularly, the child will be more likely to regularly — regardless of mother's attendance record.

— Attendance by parents rarely exceeded by their own. Only 4.4 per cent of children who "attend at once a month," the survey of those parents who most regularly, 23.8 per cent have children who attend often.

— Parents who provide less clear model (the father attends, for example, but father doesn't) have children who also varied widely in churchgoing practices.

Findings dispute certain held beliefs that:

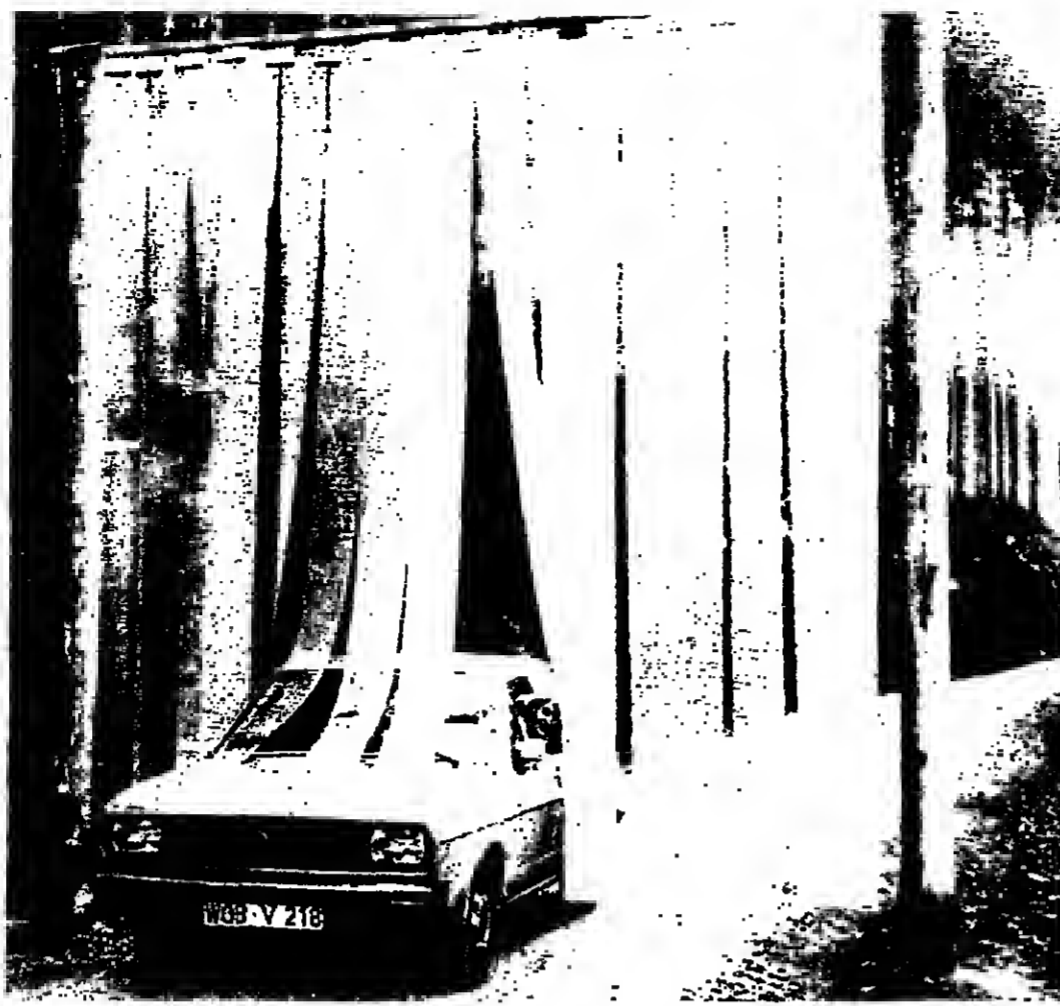
— The family unit is important. "Our substantiated research of last 15 years which shows the family unit represents a valuable resource in a changing society," says Bengtson, "... especially elderly members... The one handwriting over the line of the American is absolute baloney."

— Family relations are conflict-free. "There's thing secure about being to disagree with somebody still have that somebody you," says Mr. Bengtson. "That's what families are: family is someplace to go re you don't agree, but still loved."

— Family tensions create terrible disruption. "It's a very dangerous thinking," Mr. Bengtson. "Every member of every family is growing up, means they are following own — developmental age — create conflict"

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



NO ENTRY - This "curtain" on a woodland path near Bad Grund in the Harz mountains, West Germany, is no problem for motor vehicles, which can drive through without so much as a scratch or scrape. But the side you cannot see is shiny and reflects a mirror image, which effectively discourages deer and other animals in a local nature reserve from sauntering through to nibble away at trees on the wrong side of the fence. They stay in the park and eat what they are fed by forestry workers and visitors.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

vulnerable. North
NORTH
AK103
7Q
AQ
KQ10762
EAST
Q85
552 J109843
753
8
SOUTH
776
K
J109842
A94
Bidding:
East South West
Pass 10 Pass
Pass 30 Pass
Pass 54 Pass
Pass Pass Pass
Lead: Ace of ♠

king appeared in that order. From West's point of view, defensive prospects were dim. His king of trumps,

which he had hoped would be the setting trick, was obviously doomed, for South was marked with the ace of clubs as an entry to take the diamond finesse. Equally obvious was the fact that North's clubs would furnish all the discards South needed.

However, there was one lie of the cards that would defeat the contract. If East held the queen of spades and specifically a 3-6-3-1 distribution, declarer would not be able to get back to his hand to draw the last trump. So without further ado, West shifted to a club.

Declarer won in his hand with the nine, finessed the queen of trumps and cashed the ace to drop the king. But now he was locked in dummy. He was aware of the danger of a club ruff, so he first cashed the ace and king of spades—if West held a doubleton queen, the jack of spades would furnish a safe entry to the closed hand. When that faint chance failed to materialize, declarer had no option but to try to return to his hand with the ace of clubs. East ruffed and cashed the queen of spades for down two—a just reward for his partner's careful defense.

have often advised de- to play for a particu- tribution if that will him to make his con- The same advice to the defenders they are trying to de- contract. h's bidding does not us into raptures. We have preferred that three clubs at his turn, rather than his weak six-card however, North-South still have reached though twelve tricks contract are against ds. led the ace of hearts eat was the fall there- queen, jack and

GRAFFITI

...HALLO!
IS THIS 6771-2-3-4?
I'D LIKE TO RESERVE
A SPACE FOR AN AD IN
THE JORDAN TIMES...

MEN'S FACES
ARE ON MONEY.

WOMEN ARE
CONTENT TO
HAVE THEIR
HANDS ON IT.

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE

DENMARK
Bijregord

"Please be truthful, Gretchen — am I boring you?"

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 4, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Your judgment is not up to par early in the day and you would be wise not to make any important commitments. Later you find that excellent influences are in effect and you have restored confidence.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make sure business matters are well handled, then plan your recreations early so that they work out smoothly later in the day.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't jeopardize your security by spending more money than you can afford. Get rid of frustrations before weekend begins.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Take particular care in motion today and avoid possible accident. Study new outlets that could bring more abundance.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Be most careful where monetary matters are concerned early in the day. Plan needed repairs to property.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You may want to make some changes but this not the right time. Show more concern for mate and family members.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Make sure you carry through with whatever you have agreed with others. Don't spend more money than you can afford.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Morning is not the right time for relying on friends for favors but the evening is fine. Avoid one who is jealous of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take no risks where your good name is concerned today or there could be dire results following. Walk away from trouble.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't make any radical changes during the day or there could be trouble. Not a good time for taking any trips.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be sure to keep promises made to associates. Your mate is not cooperative during the day but is most gracious later.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Discuss future with associates and come to a complete agreement. Show others that you are a person of wisdom.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) It is wise to study a new system for handling regular routines. A co-worker could be annoying but pay no attention.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Scramble these four Jumbles letter to each square, to form ordinary words.

EFER
ECIT
INGHI
RUNEB

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

nt answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Today's Jumbles: TWEAK SINGE VENDOR BEHIND
Answer: One would be good and late to get there!—HEAVEN

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

THE WALTONS :
THE STAR
When a shooting star lands in the "recipe" room at the home of the Baldwin sisters, Grandpa suddenly feels a pain in the chest, interprets the star as his death sign and goes to bed where he awaits his demise.

GUNSMOKE :
ISLAND IN THE DESERT Pt. II
Marshall Dillon and prisoner continue their desert journey amidst obstacles and many dangers.

CILLA'S WORLD OF COMEDY :
EVERY HUSBAND HAS ONE
Doris, chosen as the ideal housewife, is submitted to interviews interspersed with comic situations.

KOJAK :
NEED TO KNOW
Kojak stalks kidnapper of children and he arrests the whole gang behind him.

THE BETTER HALF By Barnes

"I decided to come home early, just to brighten your otherwise drab day."

PEANUTS

BE CAREFUL LINUS... YOU'RE GOING TO FALL!

I DON'T THINK I CAN GET DOWN... IT'S TOO SLIPPERY...

I'M LEAVING ON THE SCHOOL BUS, LINUS, BUT DON'T WORRY! I'LL SEND A HELICOPTER FOR YOU! BE BRAVE, AH SWEET BABBOO!

HELICOPTER?

"SWEET BABBOO?"

THE BETTER HALF By Barnes

...ave to admit one thing, Stanley — you've never liked Harriet by showering her with jewels, furs, and other goodies."

THE FLINTSTONES

WHAT KIND OF BAIT SHOULD WE USE?

I'M NOT SURE YET

BUT MY HUNCH IS WE'D BE SMART TO USE WHATEVER HE DOES!

APOLOGY

Jordan Times apologises for the non-appearance of the daily crossword. Our stocks have really run dry, and in the meantime we're awaiting our next batch from our suppliers in U.S. We shall resume publication as soon as humanly possible.

OUT AND ABOUT

THE CROWN ROTISSERIE
Hotel Jordan Intercontinental. Open daily for Executive Luncheon 1-3 p.m. Special International Buffet on Sundays. Dinner with live music from 7 p.m. to midnight. For reservation please call 41361 ext. 5.

THE DIPLOMAT
First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 25392. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

QUICK MEAL
Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luweth-deh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30646. Jabal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarka and Irbid.

360 003 STEAKHOUSE
Firas Wings Hotel, Jabal Al Luweth-deh. Tel. 22103/4. Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and a la carte. Open 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sour Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

MUTT AND JEFF

HMMM... WELL, MAYBE I CAN GIVE THAT YOUNG LADY A LIFT!

ER... OH...

CIRCUS WINTER QUARTERS

President Carter's fireside chat is favourably received in U.S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (Agencies) — President Carter's first televised fireside chat won favourable reactions today as a pragmatic approach to some of the problems he faces in office.

First comment by the press and public suggested most Americans were pleased by the informal image he projected from the White House library.

The president revived Franklin D. Roosevelt's technique of talking directly to the people and voiced warnings about the energy crisis and the need for sacrifice combined with a note

of cautious optimism for the future.

Mr. Carter's main themes were that he had assumed power as the nation grappled with a permanent energy crisis, just as President Roosevelt came into office in the great depression. The economy, he said, was a problem, though far from being as desperate as it was some 40 years ago.

Congress last night passed and sent to the White House President Carter's emergency law to alleviate the natural gas shortage caused by an unprecedented winter.

The law permits Mr. Carter to temporarily suspend federal regulations that favour the sale of natural gas in the sta-

tes where it is produced rather than piping it elsewhere. Natural gas is expected to be shipped in from the West to relieve the East's shortages under the Carter law.

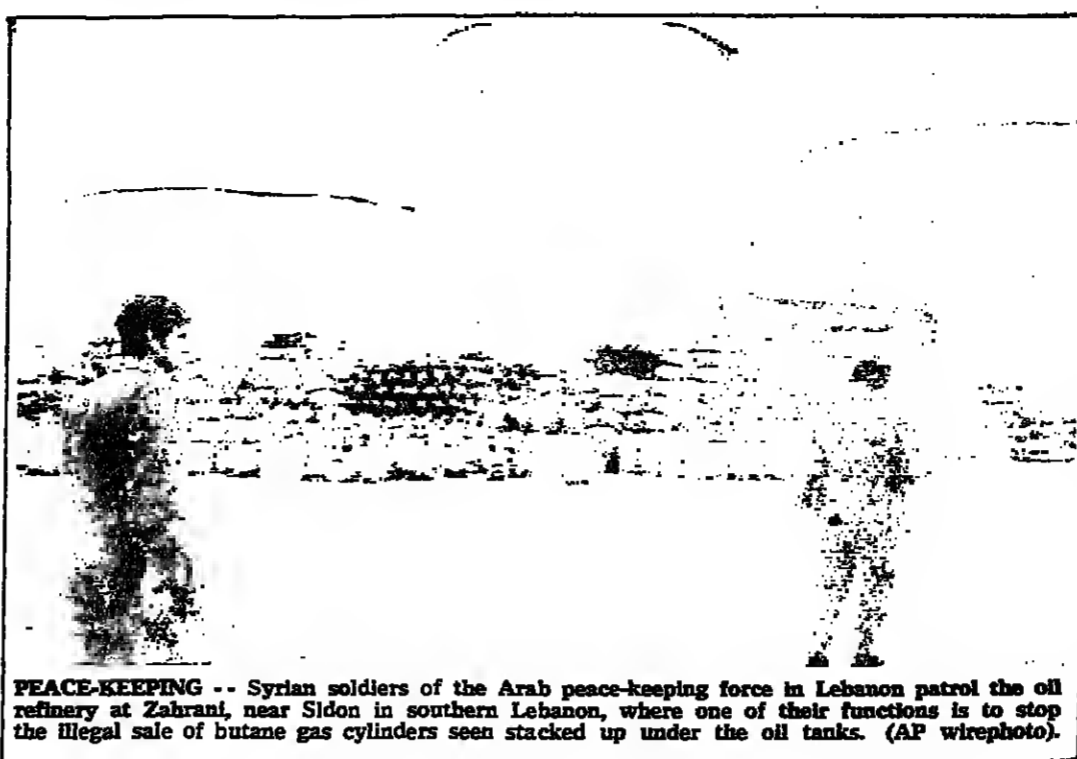
Meanwhile, a member of the Federal Energy Commission, John Hillman, has warned that U.S. natural gas shortages will continue until the summer. He said when warmer weather comes, gas companies will be unable to return to normal deliveries because they will have to begin storing up gas for next winter.

On the foreign policy front, President Carter is to send lawyer Clark Clifford on a fact-finding mission to Greece, Turkey and Cyprus in hopes of finding new means to a peaceful settlement. White House spokesman Jerry Powell announced here today.

Mr. Clifford, who will be acting as Mr. Carter's "personal envoy", will report back to the president in what ways the U.S. can help the negotiations, Mr. Powell said.

He will leave here in the coming days and meet United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim in Cyprus around the middle of the month.

In Greece and Turkey, Mr. Clifford will have talks on U.S. relations with each of these two countries as well as on the Cyprus situation.



PEACE-KEEPING -- Syrian soldiers of the Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon patrol the oil refinery at Zahran, near Sidon in southern Lebanon, where one of their functions is to stop the illegal sale of butane gas cylinders seen stacked up under the oil tanks. (AP wirephoto).

Smith expected to outline new Rhodesia ideas

SALISBURY, Feb. 3 (AFP). Premier Ian Smith will hold a press conference here tomorrow at which he is expected to outline his government's plans for achieving an "internal" settlement with the country's six million Africans.

According to government spokesmen, however, Mr. Smith does not plan to make a formal statement at the news conference but to answer "in-depth" questions from reporters.

The news conference -- which will later be televised and broadcast locally -- follows meetings on the new government moves held by Mr. Smith's ruling Rhodesian Front Party executive and his parliamentary caucus.

The Executive Committee meeting was notable in that Mr. Smith did not give details of his plans, which are said to include removing most or all racial discrimination as part of the political settlement with "moderate" African leaders.

Mr. Smith's news conference comes amid growing apprehension among the country's whites over the political stalemate in settlement negotiations and the escalating guerrilla war, which has forced a wider call-up of civilians for military service.

White attitudes and fears have been reflected in official figures showing a net loss of whites last year of more than 7,000, the highest figure since 1964.

U.S. pressure Israel on sale of arms to South Africa

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (AP). The new United States government is pressuring Israel to stop supplying South Africa with military equipment, including U.S.-built parts, it is reported here today.

The paper said the U.S. authorities did not accept the view that Israeli permission was not a factor in the export of equipment which were being sold to South Africa. It said that the U.S. government is in a position to obtain congressional approval for this if wished.

In another arms deal, production of new home-built tanks, it is in jeopardy because of development and problems, the Jerusalem reported today quoted American magazine.

According to the article -- taken from Armed Forces Journal -- first tanks were due to be completed this autumn.

It said testing of prototypes had revealed deficiencies which had taken several months to identify a rect, and the tank cannot be too expensive due to the limited quantities required by Israel.

The journal described the new tank as a "modern behemoth" front-engine powered by a 900-hp U.S.-built motor and with a 105 mm gun.

The four-man crew from the rear is through the turret, it is

Mme Claustre thanks Giscard

TOULOUSE, France, Feb. 3 (R) — Two days after her return to France from Chad, hostage Françoise Claustre today publicly thanked President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing for his efforts to obtain her release from rebels in the African territory.

Looking relaxed and fit after her 33 months in captivity, the 39-year-old archaeologist said in a brief statement: "If I have shown my gratitude to the Libyan government for its effective action which led to my release I obviously have not forgotten those who previously tried to save me, and I know the perseverance of the presi-

dent of the republic in seeking a solution to this difficult problem."

She added: "I also wish to thank the press for all the efforts it made during my detention to try to alert public opinion to my fate."

Doctors at the Purpan Hospital, where Mme Claustre is resting, said she was in good health. The Claustres have long relatives that after so long in the barren Tibetsi Desert, they longed to see trees.

Mme Claustre is due to leave hospital today to resume a normal life with her husband at a secret hideout.

French-German talks start

PARIS, Feb. 3 (AFP). — Franco-German summit talks got under way here today amid indications that American objections to nuclear deals concluded by France and West Germany with third countries would figure among the central issues.

The two-day talks began with a private meeting between President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt who flew in here this afternoon.

Irish "economic warfare" may already have begun

BELFAST, Feb. 3 (R). — Irish Republican guerrillas, waging "economic warfare", are believed to be planning to assassinate more prominent businessmen in Northern Ireland following the killing last night of the head of a United States-owned company.

Police launched a widespread hunt today and were questioning some suspects to find out who gunned down 58-year-old Jeffrey Agate, the British

Managing Director of the large Dupont synthetic fibre plant near the Northern Ireland city of Londonderry, who was shot while walking down his driveway after coming home from work.

The Reverend Ian Paisley, leading Protestant figure and a United Ulster Unionist member of the British Parliament, told reporters he had information that "in the coming days the Irish Republican Army (IRA) will embark on a whole spate of sensational killings including industrialists and important persons in the community."

Morocco, Iran agree to prod bilateral ties

RABAT, Feb. 3 (R). — In a joint communique issued here today, Morocco and Iran said they had perfectly identical views on international problems and agreed to develop their economic cooperation to raise it to the level "of the privileged links between the Shah and King Hassan Two of Morocco."

Issued after a five-day visit to Morocco by Iranian Premier Amir Abbas Hoveyda who left here for Madrid yesterday, the communique said the two governments agreed to develop economic cooperation by intensifying trade, setting up joint industrial projects and strengthening technical cooperation.

They stressed the need for the creation of "an equitable international economic order to put an end to the deterioration of the economic situation in the developing countries."

They also considered "the Middle East crisis must find an end by the evacuation by Israel of occupied Arab territories and the re-establishment of the Palestinian people in their inalienable rights to a national existence."

Moroccan Premier Ahmed Osman accepted an invitation to visit Iran at a date to be fixed later.

Police refused to comment, but the President of the Belfast Chamber of Trade, Mr. Gordon Smyth, agreed with Mr. Paisley and said businessmen had received warnings from police.



MEETING OF PREMIERS -- Iranian Premier Hoveyda (left) and Spanish Premier Adolfo Suarez chat in Madrid Thursday. (AP wirephoto).

ECONOMIC & BUSINESS NEWS

Bank of England takes control of MLR

LONDON, Feb. 3 (R). — The Bank of England changed the rules governing its lending rate today and took sole control to prevent interest levels falling too quickly and provoking withdrawals of foreign funds from London.

The bank said the minimum lending rate (MLR) would, for the time being, be imposed according to its own judgement instead of depending on market forces. This was a reversal to the old bank rate system used until 1972.

The central bank acted because of the downward pressure on interest rates resulting from the unexpectedly big influx of foreign funds into London this year.

The bank today also lowered MLR by one-quarter of a percentage point to 12 per cent, a rate which financial analysts said the British authorities would like to see maintained for several weeks at least.

Soon afterwards, Britain's "big four" commercial banks

-- Barclays, Lloyds, National Westminster and Midland -- reduced their bank rates from 13 to 12.5 per cent.

The Bank of England will now be better able to prevent a slide in interest rates which could reduce London's investment attractions and reverse the recent massive accumulation of money from abroad.

MLR has been reduced seven times since the 15 per cent record level set at the height of the sterling crisis last September.

On Friday, the bank had to cut MLR by a full one per cent, the biggest drop since the free market formula for calculating the rate was introduced.

The Bank of England yesterday published figures for Britain's official reserves showing a record \$3,067 million increase to \$7,196 million -- reflecting a massive build-up of foreign currency across the exchange markets.

Although \$1.16 billion of the

increase was accounted for by the first instalment of Britain's \$3.9 billion credit from the International Monetary Fund, the figures confirmed that foreign funds have been flowing into London on an unprecedented scale.

The sharp drop in MLR last week was a reflection of the

3-year UAE aid total is £1.65b

ABU DHABI, Feb. 3 (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has given aid worth 1.1 billion dirhams (£1.65 billion) in aid to developing countries during the past three years, the Deputy Director of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development, Mr. Nasser Al Nuweiss, said here today.

He told a visiting French parliamentary delegation that the aid went to almost 30 nations in Asia and Africa.

The delegation from the French National Assembly's

foreign Affairs Committee arrived here last night for a two-day visit at the start of Gulf tour.

Delegation leader Claud Raux said they were touring the region to discuss prospects for closer co-operation between France and the Gulf states.

The delegation also had talks today with the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Khalifeh bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Oil Minister Mané Al Oteiba and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Seif bin Ghobash.

strong attractions of British government fixed interest securities at prevailing interest rates, which are well above those available in New York.

Until today's Bank of England clampdown, MLR was calculated on a set formula based on the market for Treasury bills.

community fears is that Congress will be tempted to adopt panic measures to cope with the disruption caused by the cold wave -- measures that could bring in a new round of excessive price rises.

Uncertainty on Wall Street is reflected in the substantial falls in "blue chip" and "glamour" shares. The institutions apparently decided they had too much money in big companies like Burroughs, Eastman Kodak, McDonald's, Revlon and Texas International.

Brokers report renewed interest in "unknown" shares, while the public seems resolved to wait and see while hoping for the best.

U.S. cold wave causes decline on Wall Street

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (AFP). — The U.S. cold wave has triggered a drop in share prices on Wall Street, but the reason seems to be fear of renewed inflation as much as the immediate effects of the freeze on business activity.

Analysts here noted that Wall Street was rather jumpy throughout the second half of last year, reacting "excessively" to the recovery, to the uncertainties of the presidential election campaign and to Jimmy Carter's victory.

So it is not surprising that share prices should fall as news comes in of factories closing down, two million people

laid off work, disorganised transportation, lower industrial output and the other consequences of the big freeze.

However, according to some analysts, inflation fears are as much to blame as the immediate effects of the cold wave. They recall that inflation eased last year primarily because of moderate rises of food and energy.

Now these two sectors are causing particular concern at present. For example, fruit and vegetable crops have suffered badly in Florida, which implies higher prices for food, and the emergency measures on energy may well push up the cost of gas.

Wall Street operators also expect an increase in interest rates as companies seek to borrow money, just when many of them are reporting disappointing final quarter profit figures.

Although top executives in the New York broking firms are deliberately adopting an optimistic stance, there are reasons for thinking that the investing public is not as bold as it used to be.

Investors seem easily worried and hard to reassure even when the recovery got under way, many of the public seemed hesitant.

One thing the financial co-

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices drifted lower once again Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange, where the industrial average lost more than 5 points in active trading. This average, which closed at 947.14, has now lost more than 57 points since the beginning of the year. Investors keep worrying about the bad weather and the natural gas shortage in the U.S. There was also concern that Congress might want to change President Carter's plan to stimulate the economy in a way less favourable to industrial corporations.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 947.14, a loss of 5.65 points, transp at 226.66, a loss of 1.12; utilities at 108.90, a loss of 0.41. 23,700,000 shares a loss of 0.41. 23,790,000 shares during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The Bank of England move to halt the slide in interest rates checked the market's continuing uptrend Thursday but government bonds still finished about a point up among short dated loans while longer maturities showed net rises of 1/4, having shown swings of up to one point either way.

Equities ended mixed with some profit-taking noted, but dealers said price movements were disproportionate to actual business. At 1500 the F.T. index was down 0.2 at 405.9 after a high of 415.9. Gold shares were narrowly mixed.

Falls among equities outnumbered gains by about two to one. BP gave back 20p of its recent sharp rise while Shell eased 10p. Burmah Oil lost 4p.

Price of gold in London closed yesterday at \$132.5/ounce.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

LONDON, Feb. 3 (AFP). — The planned economic summit conference of the major Western countries and Japan will probably take place in May in London, the Financial Times said today. Japan also seeks to host the summit but is expected to yield to European arguments, the paper said.

WOLFSBURG, West Germany, Feb. 3 (R). — Volkswagen announced today it was introducing a new 1.3 litre, two-door, five-seater car. The model, to be called the Derby, will fill a gap in the Volkswagen range between the small Polo and the Golf. Unlike other models, the Derby will have a boot, or luggage trunk, rather than a hatchback.

RIYADH, Feb. 3 (R). — Saudi Arabia has signed an 850 million Riyal agreement with an Anglo-American company for modern sewage systems, cleansing vehicles and incinerators for Riyadh, the capital. It was announced here. A five-year contract for the deal has been signed with a company named as West Management-Saudi Pritchard. It is the first deal of its kind.

NUREMBERG, West Germany, Feb. 3 (R). — Unemployment in West Germany rose in January to 1,248,900 (or 6.5 per cent of the working population) from 1,089,900 (or 4.8 per cent) in December last year, the federal Labour Office announced here today. The number of workers on short time also increased, from 213,000 to 268,000.

BAGHDAD, Feb. 3 (R). — India's Minister of Petroleum Keshav Dev Malaviya will arrive here on Saturday for talks on consolidating Indo-Iraqi relations. Mr. Malaviya will also represent India at a meeting of the joint Indian-Iraqi technical and economic cooperation commission during his five-day visit.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AFP). — New York Democratic Representative Jonathan Bingham today introduced a measure to end the U.S. trade ban against Vietnam. His proposal, which was backed by 16 other representatives, would permit the United States to trade with Vietnam as it does with other communist countries, with control of exports of strategic products.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

KHARTOUM, Feb. 3 (AFP). — Mutinous air force troops yesterday tried to take over the airport at Juba, capital of southern Sudan, but were killed to a man, it was announced last night. A communique issued by Vice President Sayed Abel Aller, who is also President of the Executive Council for the southern region, said the rebellious troops had killed eight colleagues and two unnamed foreigners for refusing to co-operate.

TEHRAN, Feb. 3 (R). — Sixty-six people convicted of anti-state and communist activities have been freed under a royal pardon to mark 50 years of Pahlavi Dynasty rule, the government announced today. The group, among them seven women, included Manouchehr Moqaddam Salimi, who was twice convicted of complicity in plots against 57-year-old Shah Mohammed Raza Pahlavi. Salimi was freed after serving three years and three months of his 15-year sentence received in connection with an abortive attempt to kill the Shah and kidnap Empress Farah and Crown Prince Reza during a film festival in 1974.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AFP). — President Jimmy Carter has nominated Clifford Alexander, 43, as secretary of the army. Mr. Alexander, a lawyer, will be the first black to serve in this post.

HONG KONG, Feb. 3 (AFP). — South Yemeni Foreign Minister Mohammad Saleh Mutie arrived in Peking today for a friendly visit, New China News Agency reported.

LISBON, Feb. 3 (AFP). — Former Prime Minister Admiral Jose Pinheiro de Azevedo will return to the political arena shortly as a leader of a new political group, the Social Democratic Movement, the weekly Tempo reported today. It said the movement was being founded by a group of centre-left intellectuals who supported Admiral Pinheiro de Azevedo's candidature in last June's presidential election.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (R). — A Justice Department investigation has concluded that James Earl Ray acted alone in killing black civil rights leader Martin Luther King in 1968, informed department sources said today. The sources said the department expected to publish a report of the investigation in the next few months, which would also rule out any involvement by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in the assassination.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AFP). — Senator Dick Clark, Chairman of the Senate African Affairs Sub-Committee, has called for American pressure to be brought on South Africa for changes to its apartheid system. He suggested that the United States could begin by recalling its military attaches from South Africa.

SPLIT, Yugoslavia, Feb. 3 (R). — Fourteen Mediterranean countries today approved a "blue plan" to protect the region's environment. The blue plan is a long-term programme to look into the requirements of the Mediterranean nations' future development and the need to cut pollution in the area.

France raps Israeli press

PARIS, Feb. 3 (R) — French officials today accused the Israeli press of mounting a campaign against France which they warned was likely to endanger relations between the two countries.

Angry at the apparent anti-French campaign organised by the Israeli media following the release here of Palestinian guerrilla leader Abu Dawud, the officials said that such an attitude "was not likely to favour a return to normal Franco-Israeli relations which the French government still wishes."

"We are surprised dishonesty shown by Israeli newspapers in a campaign against France," they said.

a rejection by the EEC Council on Jan. 1977. London of a French proposal in favour of a resump of the Geneva conference participation of the time Liberation Orga are totally unfounded, said.

"Everyone knows it proposal of a joint EEC ration concerning the East, which was apprt London but not releas not originate from Fran officials stated.

"We are surprised dishonesty shown by Israeli newspapers in a campaign against France," they said.

Israeli envoy may return to France soon

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (AFP). — Israel's Ambassador to France Mordechai Gazit, recalled last month when France released Palestinian leader Abu Dawud, may return to Paris in the next few days, according to the newspaper Yediot Aharonot.

It quoted "unimpeachable sources" as saying Foreign Minister Yigal Allon might meet his French counterpart Louis de Guiringaud during a visit to Brussels in the next few days.

The two ministers are scheduled to be in the Belgian capital at the same time.

Foreign Ministry sources were unable to confirm the report that they would meet, but said some progress had been made in the past 24 hours that might lead to Mr. Gazit's return to France.

A CHILLING REALISATION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (R). — A woman executive of the U.S. Federal Administration, which major responsibilities combatting America's wave, discovered this why her own office cold, it was reported. Hcr radiator has been len.

White space for sale.

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Handwritten text in Arabic script: محمد صالح المنجد